Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 6205

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: DEC 19 NAC DISCUSSION ON CONSULTATIONS OUTSIDE THE

TREATY AREA

REF: USNATO 5373 (NOTAL)

- 1. SYG LUNS INTRODUCED SUBJECT OF CONSULTATIONS OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA INTO NAC DISCUSSION DECEMBER 19 WITH SUGGESTION REGIONAL EXPERTS MEETING MIGHT PROVIDE BASIS FOR NAC CONSULTATION ON SELECTED SUBJECTS.
- 2. MENZIES (CANADA) AGREED THAT EXPERTS SESSIONS WERE USEFUL CONSULTATION TOOLS. HE REFERRED TO CANADIAN SUGGESTION (USNATO 5372) THAT MEETINGS COULD BE SHORTENED TO TWO DAYS BY SENDING HIGHER-LEVEL EXPERTS AND BY HAVING AN AGREED MINUTE PREPARED BY NATO/IS RATHER THAN A DETAILED REPORT PAINSTAKINGLY NEGOTIATED AND DRAFTED BY EXPERTS.
- 3. SVART (DENMARK) DOUBTED UTILITY OF RESTRUCTURING CURRENT EXPERTS FORMAT. WHILE DRAFTING EXERCISE WAS ADMITTEDLY CUMBERSOME, IT PERMITTED GREATER EXPOSURE FOR SMALLER COUNTRIES WITH LIMITED CAPABILITIES TO THINKING OF COUNTRIES WITH GREATER EXPERTISE ON A GIVEN AREA. MOREOVER, REPORT-DRAFTING FREQUENTLY HELPED CONSENSUS BY FORCING EXPERTS TO CLARIFY THEIR VIEWS. CONFIDENTIAL

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ACCORDINGLY, DENMARK SAW MERIT NEITHER IN ABBREVIATING EXPERTS' SESSIONS NOR IN CHANGING PREPARATION AND FORMAT OF REPORTS.

4. NOGUEIRA (PORTUGAL) AGREED WITH DANISH VIEW.

5. UK (LOGAN) SAID UK DEL WOULD EXPAND AFTER FIRST OF YEAR ON CONSULTATION PROPOSAL MADE BY SIR ALEC AT DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. AS PRELIMINARY, LOGAN SAID BRITISH FORESAW NATO CONSULTATIONS NOT ONLY ON AREAS OUTSIDE TREATY COVERAGE BUT ON ANY AREA THAT COULD BE DIVISIVE FOR THE ALLIANCE. THE UK WANTED A GLOBAL AND UP-TO-DATE EXAMINATION OF DEVELOPING PROBLEM SITUATIONS. THIS MIGHT BE FACILITATED BY ESTABLISHING IN ADVANCE A CHECKLIST OF CRISES FACTORS OR ASSESSMENTS.

6. IN CONTEXT OF CONSULTATIONS, NETHERLANDS CHARGE BUWALDA NOTED THAT THE ME PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA WAS, LIKE SALT, OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THE ALLIANCE BUT THAT ONLY ONE OF ALLIES WAS A PARTICIPANT. BUWALDA EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THAT ALLY WOULD KEEP OTHERS FULLY AND CURRENTLY INFORMED OF GENEVA DEVELOPMENTS. PRENDERGAST

CONFIDENTIAL

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